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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 927)

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Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	14207
Center	DIST. LEARNING (CHANDIGARH)	Date	18 JULY 2017

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंगजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खालो छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. Enumerate the discretionary powers of the Governor mentioned in the Indian Constitution. Why is it said that the post of governor has become highly politicised?

भारतीय संविधान में उल्लिखित राज्यपाल की विवेकाधीन शक्तियों की गणना कीजिए। ऐसा क्यों कहा जाता है कि राज्यपाल का पद अत्यधिक राजनीतिक हो गया है?

Unlike the President, the discretionary powers of the Governor are wider and explicitly mentioned in the constitution.

DISCRETIONARY POWERS

(1) Under Art. 163(1), the Governor of a state shall discharge his executive functions on aid and advice of Council of ministers (COM), except when he is to act in his discretion on such matters.

(2) Under Art. 163(2), the power to decide which matters are discretionary is in itself a discretion of the Governor, which is final.

(3) Thus he can exist even without COM unlike President.

(4) Under Art. 200 Governor can reserve any state bill (except money bill) for the consideration of President.

(5) under Art. 356 Governor can ~~ask~~ invite the President to take over the state administration on the ground that it cannot be carried out in accordance with

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the constitution.

(6) He submits fortnightly report to centre regarding affairs of the state.

(7) He enjoys suspensive and pocket veto over state bills.

(8) When after election no party/coalition enjoys majority he may invite that party/coalition which in his opinion can form a stable govt.

Post of Governor has become highly politicized as:

(1) It is often used as a tool by centre to impose President's rule in states ruled by opposition party.

(2) He is often used against state governments to stall their developmental works and gain political mileage.

(3) Whenever govt. at centre changes, all Governors appointed by previous govt. are replaced

(4) Active politicians, civil servants, judges after retirement are appointed as Governors to ensure their loyalty towards the centre.

Thus there is need to follow the recommendations of Sarkaria & Punchhi commission regarding appointment of politically inactive persons as Governor and that too to promote cooperation between centre and states.

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2. CAG is instrumental in securing accountability of the executive to the Parliament in the sphere of financial administration. Elaborate. Enumerate the provisions made in the Constitution to ensure the independence of the CAG.

वित्तीय प्रशासन के क्षेत्र में संसद के प्रति कार्यपालिका की जवाबदेहिता सुनिश्चित करने में CAG की भूमिका महत्त्वपूर्ण है। विस्तारपूर्वक बताइए। CAG की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु संविधान में वर्णित प्रावधानों का उल्लेख कीजिए।

CAG is an independent constitutional office which ensures financial accountability of the executive to legislature both at the central and state level as provides under Art. 148.

CAG performs this function through:

(1) maintaining account of all the state finances.

(2) Auditing the revenue and expenditure accounts of centre and states and presenting the reports on:

i) Appropriation
ii) Finance
iii) Public sector undertakings (PSUs)

to the Parliament and state legislatures for scrutiny.

(3) It provides the form in which the accounts of the centre and states are to be maintained.

(4) It helps the Parliamentary committees like Public Accounts committee, committee on PSUs etc. in analysing the revenue and expenditure records of govt.

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But still it is criticised that:

(1) CAG performs post-mortem role i.e. auditing the accounts after the expenditure has been made and not at the time of appropriation like in U.K.

(2) CAG has no powers to penalize extravagance or misappropriation of funds.

(3) CAG can't audit PPP projects or other bodies not funded from govt. funds.

PROVISIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE OF CAG

(1) CAG's salary, pension and other expenses of his office shall be charged upon consolidated Fund of India which is not subject to vote of Parliament.

(2) His conditions of service shall not be changed to his disadvantage during his term of office.

(3) He enjoys security of tenure and can only be removed in a manner as a judge of Supreme Court is removed.

(4) He is not eligible for any appointment under the Govt. of India or of any other state after retirement.

Thus CAG acts as one of the bulwarks of Indian democracy and a permanent financial watchdog over the executive.

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3. What are the different institutional arrangements in India to promote cooperation between the Centre and States? Critically analyse the role of Inter-State Council to enhance cooperative federalism in India.

केंद्र और राज्यों के बीच सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारत में विभिन्न संस्थागत व्यवस्थाएं कौन-सी हैं? भारत में सहकारी संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में अंतर्राज्यीय परिषद की भूमिका का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Centre-state relations has assumed greater importance especially after 1967 and is seen as the breeding ground of cooperative as well as competitive federalism in India.

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

(1) INTER-State river water disputes (ISRWD)

Under A. 162 Parliament may by law provide for ISRWD tribunal to resolve conflict between 2 or more states over sharing of river water and river valleys and bar other courts from interfering.

(2) INTER STATE COUNCIL (ISC)

under Art. 163 President may constitute an ISC, if in his opinion public ~~sea~~ interest would be served. ISC can be constituted for different purposes like health, education, security etc.

PROS:

(i) since an ISC consists of P.M., cabinet ministers as well as chief ministers of states and UTs it provides platforms to discuss common issues.

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(ii) ISC help resolve common conflicts and prepare plans for common growth agenda.

(iii) ISC is beneficial on issues affecting across border like terrorism, money laundering.

(iv) Provides mechanism for decentralised planning.

CONS:

(i) Failure of the existing ISCs in delivering anything substantial which is further compounded by irregular meetings, funds etc.

(ii) replication of agenda in other platforms like NITI ~~Aayog~~.

(iii) Lack of trust and interest among states about it.

(3) NITI AAYOG:

It is set up as ~~an~~ a body to develop bottom up approach towards developmental planning involving states as partners.

(4) ZONAL COUNCILS

They are statutory bodies established to take up the regional issues to solve them. They are headed by home minister and consits of CMs in that zone. eg: North eastern Zonal council.

(5) NATIONAL INTEGRATION COUNCIL

It consits of not only govt. representatives but also media, civil society, NGOs representatives taking cooperative

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federalism to grassroot level.

(6) UGC promoting sus spirit in education sector.

Thus all these mechanisms aims to develop a TEAM INDIA working towards development of states as well as Union in a concurrent manner.

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4. In view of the idea of holding simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, discuss the advantages that its implementation would lead to and the concerns that it raises.

लोकसभा और राज्य विधान सभाओं का चुनाव एक साथ कराने के विचार के आलोक में, इसके कार्यान्वयन से होने वाले लाभों और इससे उपजने वाली समस्याओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Since 1967, India lost the concurrence between state elections and central elections due to a multitude of reasons ranging from President rules, emergency, people's movements etc. As a result every year 4-5 general elections are held in India. It is suggested to simultaneously hold elections to LOK Sabha and state legislative assemblies.

ADVANTAGES

(1) It will reduce the number of elections over every year and hence reduce cost of holding elections both in terms of arrangements and manpower.

(2) It will reduce election airing time and hence there will be application of model code of conduct once only. Thus ~~preventing~~ allowing the government to continue its policies and programmes.

(3) It will prevent govt. from going populist in approach and enable them to take firm decisions in national and public interest.

(4) Legislators and political parties will not be over-

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concerned about their political survival and hence work towards public welfare.

(5) It will also reduce the expenditure made by those contesting elections and hence save public money.

(6) It is argued that it may substantially increase voter turnout due to single election.

CONCERNS:

(1) It may create confusion among the electorate about which party to vote in state and central elections and separate analyse both manifestos.

(2) Huge infrastructure, manpower etc. is required at the disposal of election commission of India.

(3) If due to reasons like President's rule, early dissolution of assembly, no-confidence motion etc. the state or central govt. is dissolved prematurely, then bye-elections are required, which has 2 issues:

(i) If newly elected govt. is allowed full 5-year term, again the synchronisation will be lost

(ii) If not, then the govt. is not allowed to enjoy its public and constitutional mandate for full ~~then~~ term.

(4) It reduces the concept of concurrent and continuous responsibility to only a periodic accountability of 5 years.

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Thus careful analysis to address above concerns is required so that the ethos of public accountability and demoratic representation are balanced.

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5. Proliferaton of Ministries and Departments in the government not only leads to weak coordination and integration but also fragmentation of functions. Comment in the context of India.

सरकार में मंत्रालयों और विभागों का प्रसार न केवल समन्वय और समेकन को कमजोर करता है, बल्कि प्रकार्यों के विखंडन का भी मार्ग प्रशस्त करता है। भारत के संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The domain of public policy and governance is becoming increasingly complex and specialised which at many times resulted in creation of more ministeries and goverment departments.

Sometimes such moves are also aimed at accomodating the coalition partners and other demanding groups and leaders. But such proliferation leads to many problems.

(1) It makes the policy formulation more difficult and canalised as a department makes policies with narrow considerations which may not be acceptable to other ministry.

(2) Such differences and complexities in policy formulation leads to poor and populist policies.

(3) Such weak coordination also results in different departments formulating policies on same issues and thus wasting resources and time.

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(4) An arena like defence or environment, if divided into different departments leads to fragmented policies with no eclectic or comprehensive approach.

(5) The policies formulated may be overlapping, conflicting, and thus may divide the already limited funds and resources.

(6) Decision making and implementation is also delayed through such fragmentation.

(7) It creates multiple points of references and thus dilutes the accountability principles of democratically elected govt.

The 91st constitutional amendment Act, 2003 though limited the council of ministers to not more than 15% of strength of House of people but no such limit is there for ministries.

Thus it is time to revisit such multiple division of governmental institutions of policy making as it will promote cooperation and integration, thus preventing policy paralysis.

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6. Though judicial activism has made the judiciary more people friendly, there is also a negative side to the idea of a pro-active judiciary in the form of judicial overreach. Discuss with examples.

यद्यपि न्यायिक सक्रियता ने न्यायपालिका को अधिक लोक-अनुकूल (पीपल फ्रेंडली) बना दिया है, किन्तु अति-सक्रिय न्यायपालिका की अवधारणा का एक नकारात्मक पक्ष न्यायिक अतिक्रमण (जुडिशल ओवररीच) भी है। उदाहरण सहित चर्चा कीजिए।

Judicial activism refers to the scenario when judiciary ventures into the domain of policy/law making & implementation, when the executive and legislature fails to perform their constitutionally assigned roles and duties.

ADVANTAGES

(1) It forces the Executive and Legislature to wake up from slumber and perform their duties.

eg: In Vishakha v/s UOI case, 1997 the Supreme court framed guidelines for prevention of sexual harrassment at workplace until govt. enacted as a law in this regard.

(2) It fills in the void in govt. policies and make them relevant to contemporary needs.

(3) It promotes legal awareness among the citizens and they hold their representatives accountable in elections

(4) It is a part of doctrine of checks and balances whereby Judiciary monitors the working of other

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two organs.

But many a times such pro-active Judiciary oversteps its constitutional mandate which results in Judicial over-reach and adventurism.

DISADVANTAGES:

(1) It disturbs the balance between 3 organs and violates doctrine of separation of power which is a part of basic structure of constitution.

eg: Judiciary should limit itself to checking constitutional validity of law and not provide amendments to it.
Like Supreme court said that disqualification period for convicted legislator under RPA, 1950 be increased from 6 months to 1 year. This is judicial overreach.

(2) It creates confusion among those executing policies due to multiplicity of command authorities.

(3) It doesn't allow Executive and Legislature to work freely as all their actions are scrutinised by courts.

(4) It will lead to judicial tyranny and thus defeating the purpose of democratic and parliamentary form of govt. in India.

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Thus a balance needs to be maintained between 2 sides of same coin ie- judicial activism and judicial restraint.

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7. Examine the reasons behind the government's decision to dismantle the plan-non-plan classification of expenditure. How will the new classification of schemes into 'core of the core', 'core' and 'Optional' address the shortcomings of the earlier classification?

सरकार द्वारा व्यय के योजनागत और गैर-योजनागत वर्गीकरण को समाप्त करने के निर्णय के पीछे के कारणों का परीक्षण कीजिए। योजनाओं का 'कोर ऑफ द कोर', 'कोर' और 'वैकल्पिक (Optional)' के रूप में नया वर्गीकरण किस प्रकार पूर्ववर्ती वर्गीकरण की कमियों को दूर करेगा?

Govt. has done away with the plan-and non-plan expenditure in the budget 2017-18. Such recommendation was also given by C. Rangarajan panel on expenditure in 2011.

REASONS

(1) Since the Planning commission has been scrapped along with the 5 year plans, there is no purpose of demarcating any planned expenditure. Short, medium and long term vision has replaced the plans, last being 12th FYP (2012-2017).

(2) Also the funds allocated under planned expenditure were often shifted to non-plan after the plan period was over, thus merely incrementing the funds under this category.

(3) Such classification was serving no purpose as non-plan expenditure was increasing at more rapid rate than plan expenditure.

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(4) Most plan expenditure covered centrally sponsored schemes (CSS) which have now been rationalised as explained below.

On the recommendations of the sub-group of CMs under NITI Aayog the govt. has tried to reduce the CSSs from presently 66 schemes to 30 schemes and classified them as follows:

(1) Core of core schemes: which are for social inclusion and development; will be funded by centre.
eg: National social Assistance program, MGNREGA etc.

(2) Core schemes: which will be carried on in cooperation by centre and states for national development agenda.
eg: Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai yojana

(3) Optional schemes: which will be opted by states as per their own priorities.
eg: Border Area development programme.

Such classification will enable:

(1) Better allocation of sector wise funds

(2) Promote cooperative federalism by giving choices to states

(3) Reduce fund crush as seen in earlier classification.

Thus this move is in consonance with the

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recommendations of the 14th finance commission and promotes spirit of cooperative federalism.

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8. The amendment to do away with the domicile requirement for elections to the Rajya Sabha has militated against the very purpose that guided the Constituent Assembly to create the Council of States and reduced it to a mere revising chamber. Critically analyse.

राज्य सभा में निर्वाचन हेतु अधिवास (डोमिसाइल) की अर्हता हटाने वाला संशोधन राज्यसभा बनाने के लिए संविधान सभा को निर्देशित करने वाले मूल उद्देश्यों के प्रतिकूल है और ऐसा करके इसे मात्र पुनरीक्षण सदन बना दिया गया है। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Rajya sabha (RS) is not a secondary House like Legislative councils in state, rather a second House. It was envisaged on the principle of equality of Houses.

But in recent change, the domicile requirement for Rajya sabha (RS) elections has been dispensed with. Now, any registered voter of any constituency can contest Rs polls from any state.

ADVANTAGES

(1) This has reduced the chances of state parties electing only their failed candidates to Rs to get some political clout at centre.

(2) It has given opportunity to eminent and expert people to contest elections from other states subject to non-availability of seats in their own state.

(3) This has promoted the cause of national integration, fraternity and unity in diversity as a whole.

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(4) It has reduced the effects of regionalism, "sons of the soil" doctrine and hence limited the growth of multiple-subnationalism.

DISADVANTAGES

(1) The very purpose of having proportionate representation from all states in RS is defeated as leaders from one state may have seats more than what is alloted to their state.

(2) The federal character of RS is diluted and it has become only a revising chamber, not truly representing state interests as envisaged.

(3) Big states are able to further reduce the clout of small states by winning the meagre number of seats they have.

(4) It creates psychic fear among state leaders over not being able to represent their own leaders at central level.

(5) It has made RS a backdoor entry for leaders not able to win Lok sabha elections.

Thus though an amendment which eased administration and promoted integration it has somewhat diluted the federal credentials present in minds of our constitution makers.

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9. Discuss the significance of the concept of Office of Profit as enshrined in the Indian Constitution. Why has it been embroiled in controversies for a long time? Analyse the role played by judiciary in this regard.

भारतीय संविधान में यथा प्रतिष्ठापित लाभ के पद की अवधारणा के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। यह लंबे समय से विवादों में क्यों बना रहा है? इस संबंध में न्यायपालिका द्वारा निभाई गई भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Office of Profit has been used in the constitution to prescribe that persons occupying office of President, Vice President, Governor or member of Parliament or state legislature, shall not hold any such office under union or state govt.

It means an office / authority whereby the occupant is deriving any material or other benefits from the state and thus amounting to conflict of interest if any such person occupies above constitutional roles.

eg: If a minister or MLA becomes the director of a PSU, then he will derive profit of that PSU, thus will distort policies of govt. to favour his PSU.

Hence constitution has barred such an occupation as -

(1) It affect neutrality of those in govt.

(2) It amounts to conflict of interest

(3) It is violative of public interest & national interest

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(4) It has adverse affect on competition and thus fair play is not ensured.

It has been embroiled in controversies because –

(1) There is no clear definition betwee of office of profit in the constitution or any law.

(2) Parliament and state legislatures has made attempts to bar many offices from the purview of office of profit.

eg: Delhi govt. has appointed 21 MLAs as parliamentary secretaries and later on passed a law exempting them disqualification on grounds of occupying office of profit.

(3) Judiciary has played an important role in this regard by declaring many such appointments as void.

eg: Appointment of 11 parliamentary secretaries has been nullified by Supreme court on ground of them being office of profit.

(4) Further supreme court has framed some guidelines to determine which posts come under the ambit of office of profit until a law is enacted.

Therefore it is high time for Parliament to enact a detailed and comprehensive law defining the

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ambit and scope of office of profit and thus curbing its misuse by various authorities.

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10. The provisions of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution devolve some essential powers to the lower levels in order to cater to the needs of the tribal community. Discuss, while examining the modern day challenges faced by the institutions set up under the Sixth Schedule.

संविधान की छठी अनुसूची के प्रावधान जनजाति समुदायों की आवश्यकताएं पूरा करने हेतु निचले स्तर पर कुछ आवश्यक शक्तियां प्रत्यायोजित करते हैं। छठी अनुसूची के अंतर्गत स्थापित संस्थाओं द्वारा सामना की जा रही आधुनिक समय की चुनौतियों की जांच करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए।

6th schedule deals with the administration of tribal areas in the states of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura.

(1) It provides for the establishment of District autonomous council in such districts and they can be divided into regional councils if more than one tribes are present.

(2) such councils have executive as well as legislative powers. They can make laws on subjects like forests, marriage, divorce, customs, shifting cultivation etc., subject to the approval of Governor.

(3) They can also establish village courts / councils for settlement of disputes on a range of civil and criminal cases like marriage etc.

(4) Appeals to the decisions / orders of village courts lie before regional and district council and then to High court & Supreme court. District courts have no jurisdiction here.

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(5) such councils can advise the governor on making rules for the peace and socio-economic development of the region.

(6) Any law of Parliament does not automatically apply to these areas but governor can notify that they apply after the required modifications.

(7) Majority of the members are elected in these councils and few nominated by the governor.

(8) They have power to collect and assess tax eg. land revenue

CHALLENGES

(1) Village courts are often inefficient to resolve complex matters of law

(2) The elected members are merely the leaders of state parties, thus providing no effective representation to local grassroot leaders.

(3) such autonomous councils often create false statehood consciousness and later turning into demand of statehood.

eg: ~~Darjeeling Gorkhaland council~~ Demand of Twiparaland in Tripura's autonomous district

(4) states don't devolve much subjects and power to such councils, thus no effective decentralisation

(5) There are no guaranteed sources of funds, added by the lasity of state to grant them finances.

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Hence they experience a plethora of challenges which requires effective decentralisation to make them truly democratic models of grassroot participation.

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11. The political empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) has not been accompanied by empowerment in other spheres. Comment. Also examine whether devolving functional autonomy, administrative support and financial resources to the PRIs can help in overcoming the issues related to PRIs.

पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRIs) के राजनीतिक सशक्तिकरण को अन्य क्षेत्रों के सशक्तिकरण से संबद्ध नहीं किया गया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। इसके साथ ही परीक्षण कीजिए कि क्या PRIs को प्रकार्यात्मक स्वायत्तता, प्रशासनिक सहायता और वित्तीय संसाधन सौंपने से PRIs से संबंधित मुद्दों को संबोधित करने में सहायता मिल सकती है?

The 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment acts, 1992 gave constitutional status to PRIs and municipalities, thereby giving them political empowerment.

But such political empowerment has not fully been fully replicated at ground level due to lack of -

(1) Functional empowerment :
The subjects mentioned under 11th and 12th schedules have not yet been fully granted to PRIs by the state govts.

(2) Administrative empowerment :
There is no dedicated administrative workforce for local governance. state and central civil servants are employed which creates administrative hurdles in decentralisation of power.

(3) Financial empowerment :
Lack of adequate avenues to tax, low grants in aid,

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and abysmally low collection of non tax revenues has paralysed these PRIs.

(4) Public empowerment:
Lack of will among the public to participate in local govt. avenues, compounded further by lack of such forums and skills among public.

WAY FORWARD

(1) Functional autonomy by granting them jurisdiction over all subjects mentioned in 11th & 12th schedules
eg: Kerala and Haryana has granted all 29 subjects to Panchayats.

(2) Administrative support via dedicated cadre for local levels either through examination or creating separate local cadre to cater to local needs.

(3) earmarking funds from state fund, allowing them to tax more subjects like entertainment especially cable TV etc.

(4) creating will, avenues and skill among people to take local governance to grassroot level.

Thus PRIs can be realised to their full potential if all three Fs - Funds, Functions & Functionaries are fulfilled in true sense.

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12. While it has been argued that the judiciary should be brought under RTI, a balance also needs to be maintained between independence of the judiciary and the right of people to know. In this context, discuss the pros and cons of bringing the judiciary under the ambit of RTI.

एक ओर जहां यह तर्क दिया जाता रहा है कि न्यायपालिका को RTI के दायरे में लाया जाना चाहिए, वहीं दूसरी ओर न्यायपालिका की स्वतंत्रता और लोगों के 'जानने के अधिकारों' के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखे जाने की भी आवश्यकता है। इस संदर्भ में, न्यायपालिका को RTI के दायरे में लाए जाने के पक्ष और विपक्ष पर चर्चा कीजिए।

RTI is one of the most progressive pieces of legislation which our country has experienced in 21st century. But still many dimensions are not covered by it - among which foremost is the Judiciary.

PROS -

(1) Numerous cases of accountability of judges have arisen in past necessitating their coverage under ambit of RTI to ensure they are not engaged in corrupt practices.

(2) Transparency in judicial processes will ensure judges are not succumbing to political pressures and personal interests. Thus will further the cause of independence of Judiciary.

(3) Information is crucial and it will help pin point the issues affecting judiciary and provide necessary remedial measures.

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(4) It will reduce corruption at lower levels of Judiciary especially in commercial and property cases.

(5) It will be a step towards good governance as justice delivery is also a part of it.

(6) Information regarding cases, their status etc. will help petitioners, accused and even other stakeholders to critically analyse the justice delivery mechanism.

CONS:

(1) It may affect the working of Judiciary due to continuous public oversight, thus compelling it to go populist in nature of judgements.

(2) Judges may race up to build better public image thereby defeating basic ethos of neutral justice delivery.

(3) As per one argument it may cause blackmailing of judges under the garb of RTI.

(4) The judges may not be able to innovate new judicial doctrines due to fear of critical review

(5) It may lead to conflict with provision of ~~cases~~ contempt of court, which may be invoked more often.

Thus no doubt that information is the precious

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resource of this century but it should not be allowed to damage the balance of power and independence of Judiciary.

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13. Differentiate between pressure groups and political parties. It is often said that pressure groups are primarily a consequence of inadequacies of the political parties in India. Discuss the above statement in the context of rising environmental protection groups.

दबाव समूहों और राजनीतिक दलों के बीच अंतर बताईए। प्रायः यह कहा जाता है कि दबाव समूह मुख्य रूप से भारत में राजनीतिक दलों की अयोग्यता का परिणाम हैं। पर्यावरण संरक्षण समूहों की बढ़ती संख्या के संदर्भ में ऊपर्युक्त कथन पर चर्चा कीजिए।

(i) Pressure groups are a groups of people organised actively to promote and defend their common interest. They are often called interest / vested groups as they exert pressure on govt. to get desired modifications in public policy.

- while political parties are organised group of people having common ideology and vision and it aims to capture power through elections and form government or be a part of it.

- Pressure groups are often informal associations while political parties are formally set up groups.

eg: Trade unions, human rights associations etc. are pressure groups.
while BJP, INC etc. are political parties.

(ii) - Pressure groups primarily originate to fill in the voids or inadequacies of political parties as they aim to fill the gap in policies by

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matching them with ground realities and fighting for appropriate changes therein.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION GROUPS

There is increasing conflict between environment and development priorities.

(i) The increasing focus of political parties towards infrastructure, economic development etc. have come at the expense of environment.

(ii) Environmental clearances are granted just to fulfill legal obligations and not in spirit of good environment. Similar is case with EIAs.

(iii) Their manifestos lack dedicated schemes for protection of wildlife, forest etc.

Thus to fill these visible loopholes, pressure groups are born like environment NGOs, Narmada Bachao Andolan etc. to bring democracy to this arena. They are forced to mobilised people for cause of environment and ecosystem.

Hence such pressure groups are necessary as they provide accountability mechanism through which political parties can be focused to issues affecting society and country.

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14. Give an account of the factors responsible for the limited success of Lok Adalats. What measures are required to ensure that Lok Adalats function as an effective dispute redressal mechanism?

लोक अदालतों की सीमित सफलता के लिए उत्तरदायी कारणों का विवरण दीजिए। लोक अदालतें प्रभावी विवाद निवारण तंत्र के रूप में कार्य करें, इसे सुनिश्चित करने के लिए क्या उपाय किये जाने आवश्यक हैं?

Lok Adalats are organised under the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 as an alternate dispute resolution mechanism working on the principle of consensus.

FACTORS LIMITING THEIR SUCCESS

(1) Lok Adalats can take up cases only when both parties agree to it, which is not always the case especially in criminal cases.

(2) They resolves cases which are mostly limited to areas like challans, traffic violations, fees, dues, late compensation etc.

(3) Paucity of infrastructure and manpower pose a serious problem in effective functioning of the Lok Adalats.

(4) Consensus building between parties takes time.

(5) Most of such Lok Adalats are not permanent and are organised temporarily, thus not available to litigants everytime.

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(6) Limited jurisdiction as various non-cognizable cases are not covered under its ambit.

(7) Many states have not been organising such Lok Adalats on regular basis.

MEASURES REQUIRED

(1) Law should clearly prescribe their organisation, timing as they should be made permanent in all states.

(2) Investment in infrastructure will help in faster disposal. eg e-courts initiative should be extended to Lok Adalats.

(3) Additional and dedicated workforce to cater to the needs of the Lok Adalats should be created

(4) Their decision shall not be allowed to be challenged / appealed further. (though still present but still there are some exceptions to it).

(5) More redressal mechanisms like mediation and conciliation shall be brought within its ambit.

Thus it is a novel mechanism to foster judicial proceeding and reduce load on Judiciary but structural reforms are needed to maintain its relevance.

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15. Part IV of the Indian Constitution has great value as it provides for social and economic democracy. In light of the above statement, discuss the importance and limitations of this part of the constitution.

भारतीय संविधान के भाग IV का अत्यधिक महत्व है क्योंकि यह राजनीतिक लोकतंत्र से भिन्न सामाजिक तथा आर्थिक लोकतंत्र हेतु प्रावधान करता है। उपर्युक्त कथन के आलोक में, संविधान के इस भाग के महत्व तथा सीमाओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Part-IV enshrines the directive principles of state policy (DPSP) which epitomize the ideals of the people of India.

IMPORTANCE

(1) They have emerged alongwith the concept of welfare state and has replaced a regulatory state with a welfare state, aimed at both day to day administration as well as socio-economic development of country.

(2) Though they are non-justiciable, nonetheless they are fundamental in the governance of the country and it shall be the duty of the state to enforce them by enacting laws.

(3) They seek to supplement the fundamental rights, which promote political democracy, by aiming at providing distributive justice (social and economic democracy).

(4) They present a unique blend of principles of socialistic pattern,

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Gandhian ideology, western liberalism and ideals of the freedom struggle.

(5) They seek to promote equal distribution of resources, prevention of concentration of wealth etc and adds to dignity of individual, thus supplementing Art. 21.

LIMITATIONS

(1) They are not enforceable in court of law.

(2) They are totally at the discretion of state to implement them and no remedy is available to citizens for their non-implementation.

(3) Only 2 of directive principles A. 39 (b) and (c) can override over only 2 fundamental rights A.14 and A.19, thus considered as somewhat inferior to the fundamental rights.

(4) Unlike fundamental rights which are negative obligations, DPSPs are positive obligations of state. They are non-justiciable because they require time and resources at the disposal of the state. Thus though not legally enforceable they are politically enforceable through public accountability during elections.

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- DPSPs acts as beacon constantly reminding of the welfaristic goals to the govt. of the day.

- Supreme court has reiterated that there should be harmonization between Part-III and IV of the constitution.

Even as first CJI HJ Kania said - "Inclusion of DPSPs in the constitution is not the result of temporary majority in constituent Assembly but the considered wisdom of people of India expressed through the Assembly."

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16. Government advertisements have often been viewed as misuse of taxpayer's money for enhancing the image of political parties. Discuss in the light of relevant SC rulings. Also enumerate the recommendations made by the Twentieth Law Commission to address the issue of paid news and political advertisements.

सरकारी विज्ञापनों को प्रायः राजनीतिक दलों की छवि का महिमामंडन करने के लिए करदाताओं के पैसे के दुरुपयोग के रूप में देखा जाता है। सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के नवीनतम निर्णयों के आलोक में इस पर चर्चा कीजिए। इसके साथ ही पेड न्यूज और राजनीतिक विज्ञापनों के मुद्दे का समाधान करने के लिए 20वें विधि आयोग द्वारा की गई अनुशंसाओं का उल्लेख कीजिए।

Full page advertisements showing images of political leaders, parties, their schemes have become a daily phenomena in newspapers. Even other forms of media like TV, radio, internet are no far behind.

Such multitude of govt. ads are viewed as misuse of taxpayer's money -

(1) It is often done to enhance image of political parties and their ideologies.

(2) It is a platform to glorify political leaders

(3) Such ads by govt. during election time violates the principle of equality, as govt. machinery and public money is used by ruling party to its electoral advantage.

Supreme court in a no. of cases have given following guidelines:

(1) Govt. ads shall not contain the photographs of any leader / Govt. servant except President, Prime

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Minister and Chief Justice of India at Union and Governor and C.M. at state level; as such images amount to personality glorification which is not the purpose of Govt. ads.

(2) The govt. ads shall be limited to information dissemination about govt. schemes and programs. It should not become a party mouthpiece.

(3) It should be done on rational basis as and when required and extravagance should be avoided.

20th LAW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

(1) Political advertisements should not be allowed to use public money as they are not mandated by public to do so.

(2) Paid news need to be dealt strongly through adequate laws, covering platforms like social media also.

(3) Comprehensive policy on cyber media to regulate instances of paid and fake news.

(4) Establishment of a regulatory authority to oversee and control these two aspects - paid news and govt. ads.

Thus though information dissemination is

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crucial for public awareness but care needs to be taken that such data is not fake and not aimed at mere political glorification, wasting taxpayers' money.

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17. In a paradigmatic shift from the command and control approach of the past, NITI Aayog accommodates diverse points of view in a collaborative, rather than confrontationist setting. Comment.

प्रतिमानी परिवर्तन (paradigmatic shift) के तहत, पूर्ववर्ती कमांड एंड कंट्रोल (कमान और नियंत्रण) के दृष्टिकोण से परे नीति आयोग अब टकराव की बजाय सहयोगी विचार के साथ विभिन्न दृष्टिकोणों का समायोजन करता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

In 2014 the erstwhile Planning commission was replaced by NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India), changing the planning approach from top-~~to-bottom~~ down to bottom-up approach.

(1) Planning commission was a centralised body of planning having no state representation. while the governing council of NITI Aayog consists of all state CMs and UTs' administrators. It ensures true cooperative federalism.

(2) Earlier plan used to be prepared by centre and has to followed by states. But in present setting this command and control approach has given way to collaborative development of plans involving states as per their local needs.

(3) such a setting has reduced the confrontations between union and states and promote coordination and cooperation.

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(4) 5-year plans have been replaced by 7 year, 15-year and 30 years ~~long~~; short and medium term goals and long term vision.

(5) Sub groups have been created within the NITI Aayog on various programmes like Swachch Bharat, financial decentralisation etc. which dwell into local issues faced by states in their implementation.

(6) such a cooperative setting have also enabled in easy planning and implementation of GST, providing a platform for consensus building between centre and states.

(7) It might reduce litigations between centre and states and thus sustain our model of quasi-federalism.

Hence, such a setting for planning has reduced conflict and promoted the concept of unity in diversity alongwith national integration and greater bonhomie in centre-state relations.

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18. Vast powers have been vested in the office of the Speaker to strengthen the democratic institutions of the parliamentary system, and not to stifle dissent or protest in the House. Comment in the context of India.

लोक सभा के अध्यक्ष को व्यापक शक्तियां वस्तुतः संसदीय प्रणाली की लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं को मजबूत बनाने के लिए निहित की गई हैं, न कि सदन में असहमति या विरोध को दबाने के लिए। भारत के संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The Office of speaker of Lok Sabha (LS) is an "office of trust". He/she is the symbol of parliamentary democracy and guardian of democratic traditions in the country.

Office of Speaker is vested with huge powers like-

(1) sole authority to certify that a bill is a money bill, thereby limiting power of Rajya Sabha on it

(2) Presides over joint sitting

(3) Decides disqualification in case of anti-defection law

(4) Deciding authority on parliamentary privileges. etc.

But such vast powers are given to strengthen representative democracy and not to stifle dissent or protest in the House.

(1) Nowadays govt. is misusing the office of speaker by certifying many bills as money bills and trying to bypass Rajya Sabha.

(2) Joint sitting is another way to bypass the revising chamber of Parliament.

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(3) The decision of speaker on issues like money bill, defection is assumed final. Though Supreme court in Kihoto Hollohan v/s Zachillu, 1992 held that it is subject to judicial review.

(4) It is often argued that Speaker discriminates in time allocation among ruling and opposition party members.

(5) Lack of codification of Parliamentary privileges under Art. 105 have left the speaker with undefined reservoir of plenary powers.

WAY FORWARD

(1) Immediate codification of Parliamentary privileges by enacting a law.

(2) Framing detailed guidelines regarding certification of money bill.

(3) Power of disqualification under Anti-defection law to be exercised by President in consultation with election commission of India.

(4) Speaker to detach itself from its parent party and deliver neutral judgements and carry on the proceedings in a non-partisan manner.

(5) Formulation of a code of ethics for Office of Speaker.

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Thus Speaker needs to maintain high standards of political neutrality and morality to ensure that this office of dignity acts as a beacon of our parliamentary democracy.

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19. Tenth Schedule of the Constitution and the subsequent amendments have failed at solving the problem of defections and opportunistic politics. Critically analyse.

संविधान की दसवीं अनुसूची और पश्चातवर्ती संशोधन दलबदल और अवसरवादी राजनीति की समस्या को हल करने में विफल रहे हैं। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

10th schedule was added by the 52nd constitutional amendment act, 1985 and it deals with the provisions of anti-defection law.

It aims at preventing defections at the floor of the House and thus providing stability to govt.

SUCCESS

(1) It has been greatly helpful in preventing defection of independent and nominated members to ruling / opposition party, thus preventing frequent testing of govt.'s strength in House.

(2) With it has emerged collective voting along party lines and whip directions, thus ensuring 100% loyalty toward party since opportunistic politics and voting leads to disqualification.

(3) After 91st constitutional amendment act, 2002, splits in political parties are not valid and such splitted groups are subject to disqualification, thus preventing creation of multiple power centres within single party.

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(4) Since after supreme court ruling in Kihoto Hollohan v/s Zachillu case 1992, the speaker's decision regarding disqualification under 10th schedule is subject to judicial review, hence preventing ruling party to use office of speaker for political play.

FAILURES

(1) It does not cover pre-poll alliances and hence defections among such alliances after elections is a common phenomena.

(2) Office of speaker is manipulated many times to benefit the ruling party.

(3) Even after 91st amendment, 2002 mergers are allowed (2/3rd of party merging with another party). Thus it is alleged that 10th schedule only prevents retail defection but allows wholesale defection.

(4) Legislators involved in anti-party activities, outside the House are not disqualified under 10th schedule. Thus promoting opportunistic politics.

Hence it is time to revisit the schedule and make more necessary amendments like the one

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recommended by Law commission as well as Dinesh Goswami committee on electoral reforms that disqualification under 10th schedule shall be decided by President in consultation with Election commission; and extending it to cover political defections as well.

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20. It is the Parliamentary system, with its basis on constant accountability, accommodation and inclusion, which can best serve the needs of the country. Examine, keeping in mind the arguments that are periodically put forward for adopting the Presidential system in India.

निरंतर जवाबदेही, समायोजन और समावेश पर आधारित संसदीय प्रणाली ही देश की आवश्यकताओं की सर्वोत्तम तरीके से पूर्ति कर सकती है। भारत में समय-समय पर राष्ट्रपति प्रणाली अपनाने हेतु प्रस्तुत किये जाने वाले तर्कों को ध्यान में रखते हुए परीक्षण कीजिए।

Indian constitution adopted the westminster model of parliamentary democracy where there is no complete separation between Executive and Legislature unlike the Presidential system and Council of Ministers are collectively responsible to Lok Sabha.

ADVANTAGES

(1) For a vast and diverse country like India, such system ensure all sections of population are well represented through Parliament which is a miniature nation in assembly.

(2) It provides for continuous and concurrent accountability and responsibility to public rather than periodic accountability of Presidential system.

(3) People of India are familiar with this system since Morley-Minto reforms of 1909 and given that vast population is still illiterate, this familiarity is essential for effective voter participation.

(4) There is no deadlock between Executive and legislature as they are not fully separated and council of ministers come from Legislature being collectively responsible to it.

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(5) Huge cost will be involved in Presidential system due to direct elections for President as well as Parliament. Given the diversity of India no candidate may get required majority thus increasing election time, thus subsequent corruption.

DISADVANTAGES

(1) It often leads to hung Parliament and political instability which is not the case in Presidential system

(2) Political defections are common affecting govt. stability; while they have no value in Presidential system.

(3) Parliament's control over Executive is a myth as Executive enjoys majority in Parliament and thus manoeuvres it accordingly. eg: FRBM Act, 2003 failed due to this.

(4) President is also free to recruit talent and expertise into CoM which is restricted in Parliamentary system.

(5) Synchronisation between national and state elections is not possible in this system leading to huge election expenditure and thus leaders are focused on their political survival and victories rather than administration.

(6) This system forces Executive to go populist in policies and is unable to take bold decisions like in Presidential system.

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WAY FORWARD

But still the advantages can be made to override the fallouts by simple reforms like -

(i) Introducing german model of constructive no-confidence motion

(ii) Extending 10th schedule to cover political defection as well

Thus emergence of healthy coalition culture in the country is key to the success of this system in India.

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 981)

Name of Candidate	GAURAV KUMAR		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	14207
Center	CHANDIGARH (ONLINE)	Date	6 OCT. 2017

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
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12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका मं खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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1. Although it is the right time for elevating the mission of 'Make in India' to 'Inovate in India', significant challenges exist in doing so. Elaborate. How can these challenges be overcome?

यद्यपि यह 'मेक इन इंडिया' मिशन को 'इन्नोवेट इन इंडिया' में उन्नत करने का सही समय है, किन्तु ऐसा करने में महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियाँ विद्यमान हैं। विस्तारपूर्वक बताइए। इन चुनौतियों को कैसे दूर किया जा सकता है?

Make in India campaign was launched with the aim to make India a production/manufacturing hub but time has arrived to transform it into innovation hub through 'innovate in India' given the importance of innovation in driving manufacturing.

But there are various challenges plaguing this elevation as follows:

(1) Lack of quality research infrastructure available in the country in the form of labs, R&D centres etc.

(2) Lack of quality research being undertaken in higher educational institutions.

(3) Government apathy and negligence in providing enabling environment for research.

(4) Government spending is less than 1% on R and D while in developed countries it is more than 3%.

(5) Lack of skills among youth, lack of initiative by entrepreneurs in promoting innovation.

(6) Lack of mechanisms to promote interest in research among youth; strict IPR regime etc.

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STEPS TO OVERCOME:

(1) Attracting more foreign investment in innovation through improving ease of doing business

(2) Creating an enabling environment through greater investment in research especially in higher educational institutions.

(3) Effective implementation of schemes like Start up India with sub-missions on innovation.

(4) Creating awareness among public as well as entrepreneurs

(5) Through global collaborations and MOUs amongst universities to encourage interest in inventions and creations.

(6) Better implementation of National IPR policy and adequate dispute resolution mechanisms.

Thus holistic approach of transforming institutional, infrastructural and individual aspects is required for such an elevation.

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2. What is meant by public debt? Highlight the objectives of public debt management. Explain why it is considered prudent to disaggregate debt management from monetary policy and take it out of the realm of central bank.

सार्वजनिक ऋण से क्या तात्पर्य है? सार्वजनिक ऋण प्रबंधन के उद्देश्यों पर प्रकाश डालिए। व्याख्या कीजिए कि ऋण प्रबंधन को मौद्रिक नीति से पृथक करना एवं केन्द्रीय बैंक की परिधि से बाहर ले जाना विवेकपूर्ण क्यों माना जाता है।

Public debt refers to the borrowings (both internally/domestically as well as from international markets/banks) by the union government, ~~corporates~~, ~~firms~~ and government institutions.

Out of this debt, the funds borrowed by government from international ~~market~~ institutions are called sovereign debt.

OBJECTIVES OF PUBLIC DEBT MANAGEMENT:

(1) To keep the debt from domestic markets and financial institutions within a limit so that it doesn't create a crisis situation.

(2) To manage the debt of government both internal and external within such limits that it can be returned with no significant impact on the economy.

(3) To raise money from financial institutions and banks at best possible interest rates to reduce liability

(4) To ~~or~~ develop mechanisms to repay back all loans with less liability for government.

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Recently an idea was mooted in the budget speech about creating a special Public debt management Agency (PDMA) by segregating the functions of public debt management from monetary policy of RBI.

REASONS:

(1) It presents a conflict of interest situation since central bank raises money for government, thus would favour lower interest rates, but while implementing dear money policy during inflationary pressures, it may raise the interest rates.

(2) Thus monetary policy stance is more oriented towards inflation targetting which is opposite to public debt management.

(3) An independent agency would be better equipped to manage debt rationally based on sound prudent economic principles.

Thus though such segregation is mooted still a comprehensive analysis is required to ensure that such a measure doesn't backfire in the long run.

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3. There is an urgent need for India to get infrastructure financing, however, the current investment model of PPPs is poorly designed and needs restructuring. Discuss the issues plaguing the success of PPPs with respect to stalled projects, risk management, governance & institutional capacity.

भारत को अवसंरचना वित्तपोषण प्राप्त करने की तत्काल आवश्यकता है, लेकिन सार्वजनिक निजी भागीदारी (PPPs) का वर्तमान निवेश मॉडल असंतोषजनक रूप से डिजाईन (अभिकल्पित) किया गया है और इसे पुनर्संरचित करने की आवश्यकता है। अवरुद्ध परियोजनाओं, जोखिम प्रबंधन, गवर्नेंस (शासन) एवं संस्थागत क्षमता के संबंध में PPPs की सफलता में बाधक बने मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

India is in the need of more than $ 1.5 trillion for the next 10 years to create the infrastructure required. The PPP models provided a novel way of getting this finance by leveraging private sector but it is plagued with numerous issues.

ISSUES PLAGUING SUCCESS OF PPP

(1) The PPP models / agreements are more like contracts with stiff penalties for concenssionaires with for things beyond their control.

(2) There is minimal risk sharing by the government leveraging all responsibility and risks on the private concessionaire.

(3) There are often issues in land acquisition, getting regulatory clearances (especially environmental clearance) resulting in cost and time overruns and ultimately stalled projects.

(4) The tolls are fixed and revised by government

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at its free will without any prior consultation with the concessionaire.

(5) Also there are no adequate dispute redressal mechanisms except going to supreme court making business difficult for concessionaire as well as untimely redressal of grievances.

(6) The concessionaire may be ~~competetent~~ competent to address both issues/sides - engineering and management.

WAY FORWARD

(1) Adequate grievance and dispute redressal mechanism

(2) Toll fixation and revision in consultation with private developer

(3) Risk and responsibility sharing by government.

(4) Quicker land acquisition and regulatory clearances.

The new PPP model of EPC (Engineering, procurement and construction), whereby the government provides resources and land acquisition with construction done by private developer, may emerge as solution to many of above problems.

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4. The worsening road safety situation in India is further complicated by an increasing population and proliferation of vehicles on the road. Discuss. Also, highlight the steps that are being taken by the government to address the issue of road safety and reduce the associated fatalities.

भारत में सड़क सुरक्षा की बिगड़ती स्थिति, बढ़ती जनसंख्या और सड़क पर वाहनों की संख्या में बढ़ोत्तरी के कारण और अधिक जटिल हो जाती है। चर्चा कीजिए। सरकार द्वारा सड़क सुरक्षा के मुद्दों से निपटने एवं इनसे संबद्ध मृत्यु की घटनाओं को कम करने हेतु उठाए जा रहे कदमों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

On an average, there are 1.5 lakh road accidents in India per year resulting in thousands of fatalities. The road safety situation has worsened with increase in number of persons as well as vehicles.

(1) The increased population has increased pressure on roads as most of them needs to commute daily.

(2) Increased population has also resulted in proliferation of vehicles on the road resulting into high probability of accidents.

(3) The lack of dependence on public transport have caused more private vehicles plying on roads causing congestion, jams and thereby accidents.

(4) Inability of traffic police staff and other infrastructure to enforce traffic rules over such huge number of vehicles have caused open violation of traffic rules, thus increasing fatalities.

(5) The lack of safety provisions like air bags in vehicles

(6) Lackadaisical attitude of commuters in indulging in drunk driving, talking on phones while driving etc.

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(6) Increased urban migration have caused population pressure on urban roads leading to more fatalities

GOVERNMENT STEPS:

(1) It has launched Transit-oriented development policy to enable every citizen in urban areas to live within walking or cycling distance from mass transport systems like metro, BRT etc.

(2) Promotion to mass transit public transport like metros, bus rapid transit corridors, monorails.

(3) stronger penalties for violation of traffic norms through amendments in motor vehicles Act.

(4) Green urban mobility scheme for promoting non-motorised transport like cycling, walking tracks etc.

Thus comprehensive urban planning along with transportation reformation is required to tackle this menace in every form.

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5. Explain the concept of 'green economy'. Highlight the costs and benefits in making a transition towards green economy for developing countries like India. Also discuss the associated challenges.

'हरित अर्थव्यवस्था' की अवधारणा की व्याख्या कीजिए। भारत जैसे विकासशील देशों के लिए 'हरित अर्थव्यवस्था' की ओर संक्रमण करने की लागतों एवं लाभों पर प्रकाश डालिए। साथ ही, इससे संबद्ध चुनौतियों की भी चर्चा कीजिए।

Green economy refers to the concept that economic development should be environmentally sustainable and both the domains should be concordant and not mutually exclusive.

BENEFITS / COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

(1) Such a transition is required in developing countries to tap the resources in a sustainable manner and without harming environment.

(2) It will enable them to address the concerns of climate change and carbon emissions better.

(3) It can ensure that adequate livelihood / job opportunities are created ensuring more growth.

(4) The growth would be more inclusive including all sections like tribals, rural people, slum dwellers etc.

(5) It would boost local industries like handicrafts, cottage, forest produce based, agro based industries etc.

(6) The cost associated may be appearing high initially due to new mechanisms required but the long term benefits will overpower it.

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CHALLENGES:

(1) It may be criticised to compromise growth prospects while overfocusing on environment.

(2) It may create problems in land acquisition, environmental clearances etc. thereby stalling projects, and reducing the ease of doing business.

(3) It may create impediments in industrial development, foreign investment etc.

(4) The government projects like interlinking of rivers, massive roads, railways and bridges projects as it may invite wrath of NGOs, environmental groups.

Thus though a novel concept having potential to create inclusive growth, it needs to be balanced with industrial development needs of the country.

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6. Despite the government claiming excess electricity production, the power situation for households continues to remain bleak in many parts of the country. Explain the reasons behind this. How can the UDAY scheme help in improving the current situation?

सरकार द्वारा अतिरिक्त विद्युत उत्पादन का दावा किए जाने के बाद भी देश के कई भागों में घरों के लिए विद्युत की स्थिति निराशाजनक बनी हुई है। इसके निहित कारणों की व्याख्या कीजिए। वर्तमान स्थिति में सुधार लाने में उदय (UDAY) योजना कैसे सहायता कर सकती है?

There is still a huge gap in electricity demand and supply though the government claims excess electricity production. There are many villages that continue to exist in darkness with no access to electricity.

REASONS:

(1) The grim condition of power distribution companies (DISCOMS) having poor financial health.

(2) The huge transmission and distribution losses resulting in power wastage.

(3) Power theft including theft of wires is another reasons of low electricity supply to many regions.

(4) Irregular supply of coal to thermal power plants resulting in inadequate / underutilisation of their generation capacities.

(5) Disputes between states due to sharing of electricity from hydroelectric projects causes more shortage.

(6) Many hydroelectric, nuclear and thermal power projects are stalled.

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The Ujjwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY) can help in recovering the ailing financial health of DISCOMS. It enables the state government to take over the stressed assets of these companies in a phased manner. This will enable them to invest their time, energy and funds in more capacity augmentation and rejuvenation of distribution network and not merely focus on loan repayment.

Thus this UDAY scheme along with other initiatives like SeVA, GARV-II app etc. can be instrumental in ~~reading~~ realising the vision of "24X7 power for all by 2019".

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7. Enhancing the competitiveness of the Textile sector can create employment as well as promote inclusive growth. Elaborate with reference to government initiatives for promotion of the textile sector.

वस्त्र क्षेत्रक की प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता में वृद्धि रोजगार सृजन के साथ-साथ समावेशी विकास को भी बढ़ावा दे सकता है। वस्त्र-क्षेत्रक को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सरकार की पहलों के संदर्भ में विस्तारपूर्वक बताइए।

Textile sector provides direct as well as indirect ~~lord~~ employment to millions of people and it as an important sector on which agriculture is dependent also. Thus enhancing competitiveness in this sector to boost efficiency ~~with~~ will result in inclusive growth.

(1) It has potential to boost agricultural production of fibre crops thereby providing employment and adequate price for farmers.

(2) It provides job opportunities to skilled and unskilled manpower

(3) It is boost for our exports industry and make India self reliant in textiles.

(4) It has potential to boost rural economy

(5) Technical textiles are new arena where India can lead globally, thereby providing inclusive growth.

GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

(1) It has launched Powertex scheme to revitalise the powerlooms in the country by providing them required assistance.

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(2) Amended- Technology Upgradation Fund scheme (A-TUFS) to provide necessary new technology and equipments to increase efficiency.

(3) Government has allowed 100% FDI in textile sector giving impetus to competition in this sector

(4) Government has launched sub-missions on promoting technical textiles like agro textiles, geo textiles etc.

(5) interest linked subsidy scheme for handlooms to ensure their adequate growth.

Thus textile sector has both forward and backward linkages and ability to drive many sectors towards development resulting in inclusive growth.

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8. Digitalisation of transactions is a panacea to address the problems of corruption and tax evasion as well as achieve financial inclusion. Critically evaluate. Also enumerate the impediments for India to transit to a digitalised cashless economy.

लेन-देन का डिजिटलीकरण, भ्रष्टाचार और कर अपवंचन (tax evasion) की समस्याओं का समाधान करने एवं साथ ही वित्तीय समावेशन को प्राप्त करने में एक राम-बाण औषधि के समान है। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए। भारत के लिए डिजिटलीकृत नकद विहीन अर्थव्यवस्था में संक्रमण के मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं के संबंध में विस्तार से बताइए।

Presently India has a high cash to GDP ratio of around 9% (after demonetisation - earlier 12.49%) which is higher than developed economies. Such huge cash creates problems of money laundering, black money, corruption, tax evasion etc. cashless economy is the ultimate panacea to them.

ADVANTAGES/MERITS OF ABOVE ARGUMENT:

(1) It brings transparency in transactions thereby making difficult to evade taxes and result in increased tax revenue.

(2) It allows better targetting of beneficiaries through DBT without any leakages, thereby increasing effectiveness of socio-welfare schemes, promoting financial inclusion

(3) It reduces corruption by reducing avenues of black money generation and transfer.

(4) It boosts economic growth, enables ease of doing business thereby providing overall boost to economy

AGAINST ABOVE ARGUMENT:

(1) It may not totally eliminate fraudulent tax practices as digital framework is still not strong in India.

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(2) It may only change the mode of corrupt practices

(3) It is still easy to open proxy accounts in the country thereby deriving the benefits of DBT and not providing financial inclusion.

(4) The cyber security may pose another hindrance in relying totally on digital transactions as it may risk country's economy.

CHALLENGES

(1) Poor digital and financial literacy in country

(2) Poor cyber security framework making such transactions risky

(3) Behavioural problem among people regarding over-reliance on cash and considering digital transactions to be complex and unsafe.

(4) Lack of internet penetration in the country which is merely 30% with less than 12% of these having broadband connectivity.

(5) No strict law providing insurance against any loss of money in digital transactions.

Thus enabling legislations and mass awareness campaigns are required to make it a reality in the country. Missions like PMG DISHA, Digital India etc. are required to drive India towards cashless economy.

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9. Explain why the government has adopted the HELP in place of the NELP that was existing for almost a decade. Also discuss how HELP has the potential to transform India's E&P activities with special emphasis on non-conventional sources of energy.

व्याख्या कीजिए कि सरकार ने लगभग एक दशक से विद्यमान NELP के स्थान पर HELP को क्यों अपनाया है? साथ ही, ऊर्जा के गैर-परम्परागत स्रोतों पर विशेष जोर देते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि HELP में भारत की E&P (अन्वेषण एवं उत्पादन) गतिविधियों को रूपांतरित करने की क्षमता किस प्रकार विद्यमान है।

Government has adopted the Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) in place of NELP due to some inherent problems in the old policy and to realign India's energy priorities with new global developments like Paris deal INDCs, more focus on renewable energy etc.

REASONS:

(1) NELP provided for strict regulations while bidding for exploration blocks and separate bidding for each hydrocarbon to be explored.

(2) The policy was based on production sharing contract which was having its own shortcomings like more risk and revenue.

(3) It was not based on priority for non-conventional energy sources.

(4) It laid focus on licensing and not on monitoring after the block has been allocated.

HELP has potential to transform E&P activities due to following provisions:

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(1) UNIFIED LICENSING for all resources (gas, oil etc.) present within the single block.

(2) OPEN-ACREAGE LICENSING allowing the bidder to select the block as per his own choice without waiting for the formal round of bidding to start.

(3) REVENUE SHARING CONTRACT to be the basis of Exploration block allocation so that revenues can be shared with government right from beginning.

(4) FOCUS ON NON CONVENTIONAL SOURCES like shale gas to make India ~~a~~ less dependent on oil so that it can emerge as a gas based economy.

Thus HELP has the potential to reinvigorate E&P activities, reducing discretion in allocation of blocks and more reliance on gas based resources.

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10. Briefly highlight the parameters used by the government to determine the extent of poverty in India. Examine the relationship of economic growth and poverty alleviation in the post-reforms era.

सरकार द्वारा भारत में निर्धनता की सीमा का निर्धारण करने हेतु उपयोग किए जाने वाले मानदंडों (पैरामीटर) पर संक्षेप में प्रकाश डालिए। आर्थिक सुधारों के बाद के युग में आर्थिक संवृद्धि और निर्धनता उन्मूलन के बीच संबंध का परीक्षण कीजिए।

SDG-1 aims to "end poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030." But for realisation of this goal there is need to measure poverty for which various paramdeters are used by the Indian government.

PARAMETERS USED:

(1) Earlier poverty lines were totally based on calorie intake in rural and urban areas.

(2) Progressively, on recommendations of many committees the poverty line was shifted from calorie intake to income based, both for rural and urban areas separately.

(3) The poverty line estimation also estimation of consumption expenditure by various households by NSSO.

(4) Also the new criteria to identify the people who are poor is also based on socio-economic caste census

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC GROWTH AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION:

(1) Post reforms though the growth was very high in

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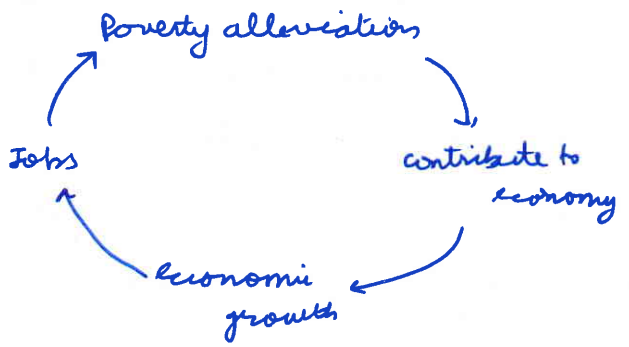
the initial decade but much of this growth was jobless basically because there was less focus on poverty alleviation programmes.

(2) Today poverty alleviation is essential to boost economic growth and it requires focus on wage employment and self employment programmes. which were neglected during 8-9th five year plans

(3) Poverty alleviation should be based on skill development enabling people to earn their livelihood and not dependent on government.

Thus both the concepts are married to one another and one can't be achieved without other, forming a closed loop.



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11. Buffer stocking of food grains is seen as a vehicle to deliver strategic food and agricultural domestic support policies, however, there is a growing consensus that the programme has been not just costly but also imprudently wasteful. Critically evaluate.

खाद्यानों के सुरक्षित भंडारण (बफर स्टॉकिंग) को खाद्य एवं कृषि संबंधी रणनीतिक घरेलू समर्थन नीतियाँ प्रदान करने के साधन के रूप में देखा गया है, लेकिन इस संबंध में यह मतैक्य बनता जा रहा है कि यह कार्यक्रम न केवल महँगा बल्कि अविवेकपूर्ण रूप से अपव्ययी भी रहा है। आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

India maintains huge buffer stock through FCI procuring grains from farmers directly at the MSP. These are maintained for a variety of strategic and domestic reasons.

ADVANTAGES:

(1) It ensures adequate supply of food grains for any natural calamity or crisis situation like floods etc.

(2) It is required to provide a platform to the farmers to sell their produce at MSP directly to FCI

(3) It provides the grains for Public distribution system (PDS) and National food security policy of the government, whereby they are sold to state agencies at central issue price.

(4) It is useful to hedge against inflationary pressures in food grains by releasing grains from this stock.

DISADVANTAGES

(1) There is huge wastage of grains due to lack of storage and warehouses under FCI

(2) There is huge cost involved from purchasing (MSP),

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transporting as well as storing these grains.

(3) The buffer stock has failed to curb inflationary pressure due to large numbers of middlemen present.

(4) FCI centres are not present in eastern states, thereby limiting the benefits of direct selling to few states where agriculture is already developed.

Hence it is time to implement the recommendations of Shanta Kumar committee over FCI reforms and restructuring and rationalising the process of maintaining food stocks so that it is not merely a wasteful expenditure rather accomplish its intended objectives.

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12. Discuss the significance of food processing industry in the economic development of the country and the challenges which need to be tackled for sustained growth of the industry. Also elaborate on the the salient features of National Mission on Food Processing.

देश के आर्थिक विकास में खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग के महत्व के साथ-साथ उन चुनौतियों की भी चर्चा कीजिए जिनसे निपटना इस उद्योग के संधारणीय विकास हेतु आवश्यक है। राष्ट्रीय खाद्य प्रसंस्करण मिशन की प्रमुख विशेषताओं की विस्तारपूर्वक व्याख्या कीजिए।

Food processing industry is an important sector for economy's development and it can provide impetus to many other sectors through forward and backward linkages.

SIGNIFICANCE:

(1) It is essentially based on agricultural products and thus provides crucial market for farmer's produce ensuring them income security

(2) It provides employment to millions of people, especially farmers and labourers available in the region providing them extra source of income during lean season.

(3) It ~~provides~~ prevents food wastage by providing adequate storage and processing of perishable items

(4) Provides nutritional security to many.

CHALLENGES

(1) Inadequate backward & forward linkage with farms and market due to lack of enabling environment

(2) Lack of quality raw material

(3) Lack of cold chain infrastructure in the country

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(4) Negligent attitude of government in providing finance to the industry alongwith technological upgradation.

(5) Mostly it is concentrated in small medium enterprises sector.

(6) Lack of skilled entrepreneurs to take up opportunities poses by this sector.

(7) Lack of continuous electricity supply, problems in land acquisition near farms, transportation issues etc.

NATIONAL MISSION ON FOOD PROCESSING

(1) It aims at developing this sector through enhancement in infrastructure like cold chain storage, electricity supply, logistics etc.

(2) It aims to improve farm yield and return to farmers by ensuring timely sale to food processing industries.

(3) It aims at making the sector export oriented and increased exports of processed food.

(4) It aims at creating marketing avenues for processed food in the country.

Thus government has launched SAMPADA scheme to act as umbrella scheme for all government initiatives in this sector thereby coordinating and synergising all efforts and resources.

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13. In spite of having the world's largest livestock population in India, the potential of animal rearing remains underutilized. In this context, discuss the challenges faced by the meat and poultry sector and suggest measures for accelerated and sustained growth for this sector.

भारत में विश्व की सर्वाधिक पशुधन संख्या होने के बावजूद भी पशुपालन क्षमता का पूर्ण दोहन नहीं किया जा सका है। इस संदर्भ में मांस तथा कुक्कुट क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों की चर्चा कीजिए एवं इस क्षेत्रक की त्वरित एवं संधारणीय वृद्धि के लिए उपाय सुझाइए।

India is the hub of largest livestock population, largest consumer and produces of milk, second largest exporter of fisheries etc. But despite these facts there are numerous challenges faced by livestock rearing in India.

CHALLENGES FACED BY MEAT AND POULTRY SECTOR:

(1) There are complex laws hindering the transportation of livestock (hens, etc.).

(2) There is issue of overuse of antibiotics in poultry sector to enhance growth resulting in proliferation of antimicrobial resistance as well as diseases, thus getting negative fame in the export sector.

(3) There are loopholes in quality as standard procedures are not followed while maintaining health of animals.

(4) Lack of credit for developing sheds, providing feed etc. to animals creates hindrance in entrepreneurship in this sector.

(5) Lack of skilled training to those involved in this sector.

(6) Lack of direct marketing avenues resulting in losses.

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MEASURES:

(1) There is need to frame a comprehensive policy for meat and poultry sector

(2) There should be adequate financing by bringing this sector under priority sector lending norms.

(3) There is need to check the misuse of antibiotics in poultry sector as it results in negative externalities

(4) Also adequate skill training regarding types of sheds, feed to animals etc. to ensure sustainable growth of this sector

(5) Interaction to global agencies to learn from international best practices.

Thus this sector requires priority focus as it has the potential to lead other allied sectors and provide an alternative non-farm source of income to farmers.

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14. Indian agriculture has become cereal-centric and as a result, regionally biased and input-intensive. Discuss. What steps have been taken by the government to rectify this issue?

भारतीय कृषि अनाज-केंद्रित हो गई है तथा इसके परिणामस्वरूप यह क्षेत्रीय रूप से पक्षपातपूर्ण और आगत-गहन (इनपुट इंटेन्सिव) हुई है। चर्चा कीजिए। इस समस्या से निपटने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं?

Indian agricultural production has majority share of cereals like wheat, rice etc. while minimum share of pulses, oilseeds, horticulture crops etc. This skewed ~~d~~ production scenario has resulted in regional inequalities.

(1) The green revolution in northwest part of India especially Punjab, Haryana and western UP has made agriculture more dependent on inputs like fertilizers, pesticides etc.

(2) Secondly these regions have grown crops not suited to agro-climatic conditions resulting in pressure on land and water resources.
eg: Rice cultivation in Punjab has drastically affected water table.

(3) moreover the dryland farming has been abandoned in other parts, moving towards cereals resulting in poor yield, thereby crop failures and crisis.

(4) More cereals are grown as a result the eastern regions has suffered, as prices of crops grown traditionally in these areas have gone down.

(5) It has resulted in import of pulses, oilseeds etc. increasing our import bill.

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STEPS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT:

(1) Government has launched missions on dryland farming to promote agro-climatic zone based cultivation.

(2) National missions on oilseeds and oil palm (NMOOP) has been launched to promote their cultivation and reduce their import.

(3) Government has decided to announce MSP for pulses to promote its cultivation

(4) ~~Rashtr~~ PM Paramparagat Krishi Yojana to promote organic farming and being less dependent on chemical inputs.

(5) Government has decided to launch second green revolution for eastern states.

Thus promotion to other non-cereal crops will help country balance the regional inequalities and also ensure nutritional security to people based on self reliance in such crops.

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15. Even though India has a huge potential for aquaculture and fisheries industry, there are certain challenges that need to be addressed to bring about a 'Blue Revolution' in the country. Discuss.

यद्यपि भारत में ऐक्वाकल्चर और मत्स्य पालन उद्योग के संबंध में अपरिमित क्षमता विद्यमान है, किन्तु देश में 'नीली क्रांति' (ब्लू रिवोल्यूशन) लाने के लिए कुछ चुनौतियों से निपटने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India has a long coastline of about 7516.6 km and numerous rivers providing huge potential for aquaculture and fisheries. But still there are numerous issues plaguing this sector.

CHALLENGES

(1) There is ~~need to~~ a ban on fishing activities beyond territorial waters in many areas along the coast, especially in EEZs.

(2) The lack of credit to fishers to buy mechanised boats, nets and other equipments.

(3) States lacking jurisdiction over coastal waters despite fisheries being a state subject.

(4) Lack of adequate forecasting mechanisms to warn the fishers of bad weather, tsunami, cyclones etc.

(5) There are issues of lack of awareness regarding ornamental fisheries having huge potential to be developed in aquaculture activities.

(6) The issue of trespassing into international waters and caught/arrested by other countries resulting in loss of livelihood.

(7) Also there is increased competition from countries like China.

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STEPS REQUIRED:

(1) Using modern technology to upgrade skill and techniques of fishermen commensurate with global practices to increase yield.

(2) cheap credit be made available to lower class fishers enabling to earn adequate livelihood.

(3) skill training of fishers to enable them catch good fishes which are in demand.

(4) Providing direct linkage to market and food processing to fishers to improve the value of their produce.

(5) Promoting aquaculture via exporting ornamental fishes, setting up more aquariums etc.

Thus there is need to adopt B. Meenakumari committee recommendations on deep sea fishing to allow fishing in EEZs also except a buffer zone between 22-50km from territorial waters. This will ensure sustainable development of fisheries sector.

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16. What is hydroponics? Discuss its relevance in light of limited land availability while ensuring food security.

हाइड्रोपोनिक्स (hydroponics) क्या है? सीमित भूमि उपलब्धता की दृष्टि से खाद्य सुरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु इसकी प्रासंगिकता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Hydroponics refers to growing of plants in water medium having all required nutrients without any need for soil or solid ground. It is emerging as a new means of monoculture.

RELEVANCE:

(1) It has the ability to reduce pressure on land and address concerns over limited land availability for growing crops due to high population.

(2) Also it can ensure growing of adequate crops of different variety, thereby ensuring food security.

(3) It can ensure growth of crops especially food crops without harming soil fertility, thereby no land degradation.

(4) It can make use of huge water bodies available and it can create more yield than similar ~~amond~~ amount of seeds in soil.

(5) It can provide additional source of revenue to farmers thereby providing them income security and making agriculture sector lucrative for younger generations.

(6) It can be used to grow GM crops without necessarily impacting environment.

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CHALLENGES

(1) There is huge scope of research left before this method can be commercialised

(2) Also there is need to study its feasibility with respect to environment as it may increase degradation of water bodies

(3) There is need to reduce its price to a level affordable by common farmers.

(4) This method can result in adulteration of food chain if geneti ~~manipulation~~ manipulation is allowed free hand.

Thus though a novel and unique sector to ensure food security and nutritional security there is need to carry out detailed research to analyse its sustainability.

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17. Not only does the yield (measured in tonnes/ha.) of a crop but a number of other factors determine the choice of crops that a farmer cultivates. Elaborate with special focus on cropping pattern in India.

एक किसान द्वारा उपजाई जाने वाली फसलों के चयन को न केवल फसल की उपज (टन/हेक्टेयर में मापी गयी) अपितु कई अन्य कारक भी निर्धारित करते हैं। भारत में प्रचलित फसल प्रतिरूपों (पैटर्न) पर विशेष ध्यान केन्द्रित करते हुए विस्तारपूर्वक व्याख्या कीजिए।

The cropping patterns in a region or country depends upon variety of factors ranging from climate, soil etc. along with yield of crops. This is highlighted from diverse cropping patterns in different regions of India.

FACTORS :

(1) First is the agro-climatic conditions of that region which means the temperature and rainfall (Monsoon in India) conditions which decide the crop to be grown
eg: Rubber cultivation is limited to southern states due to availability of hot and humid climate.

(2) Secondly irrigation facilities also determine the crop type in the region
eg: Rice is a water intensive crop, thus mostly grown in eastern coastal region; while pulses are grown in dryland areas as they need less moisture

(3) Also yield of crop is a crucial factor in determining which crop to be grown
eg: Due to green revolution, rice is also being grown in Punjab due to its high yield despite it not suiting the agro climatic zone there.

(4) Availability of manual labour
eg: Paddy cultivation requires cheap labour during

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transplantations which is easily available in states like Bengal, Bihar, Odisha etc.

(5) soil type also influences the cropping patterns
eg: cotton is widely grown in black soil region of the Deccan.

(6) Favourable government policies like MSP, cheap credit etc also influence cropping patterns
eg: Farmers mostly grow cereals due to high MSP of these crops.

(7) Availability of market also affects cropping pattern
eg: Jute is grown in West Bengal region due to huge Jute mill cluster in the region providing adequate return to farmers.

Hence a plethora of factors are responsible for distribution of crops across the landscape of India.

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18. Agriculture seems to be one of the most affected but the least equipped as far as climate change is concerned. Discuss the statement with special emphasis on developing countries and their need for agriculture finance and subsidies.

जलवायु परिवर्तन के संबंध में कृषि सर्वाधिक प्रभावित तथापि इसका सामना करने में सबसे कम साधन-संपन्न क्षेत्र प्रतीत होता है। विकासशील देशों तथा उनकी कृषि-वित्त और सब्सिडी संबंधी आवश्यकताओं पर विशेष बल देते हुए इस कथन पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Agriculture is largely dependent on climate and its elements for growth of crops and thus primarily affected by climate change. But there have been very few interventions to equip it to deal with this problem.

(1) The climate change is causing increase in global temperature, unpredictable rains etc. which is likely to influence agroclimatic zones and thereby cropping patterns.

(2) This effect is more pronounced in developing countries as they lack resources and technology to adapt their agriculture to changed conditions.

(3) There are many crops unable to bear the stress the this change and this may cause serious food security problems especially in the developing countries as they have huge population.

(4) Further in developing countries wide range of population is dependent on agriculture for livelihood and any disruption via climate change may be disastrous for economy.

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(5) Thus these countries need help from developed countries and financial institutions to make themselves ready for climate adaptation.

(6) Further the agricultural subsidies are required to be continued in these countries to continue investment in climate smart agriculture and mitigate the effects of climate change of agriculture.

(7) Further there is need of technology transfer to ensure that climate engineering practices are employed to built climate change resilient crops.

Thus developing countries like India are extremely vulnerable to climate change especially in agriculture domain which require urgent redressal to ensure timely mitigation. India has launched National mission on climate smart agriculture to address this concern.

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19. Discuss the lacunae in implementation of Minimum Wages Act in ensuring the welfare of agricultural labour. Also, suggest some other measures to improve the situation of agricultural labourers in the country.

कृषि श्रमिकों के कल्याण को सुनिश्चित करने की दिशा में न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम के कार्यान्वयन में विद्यमान कमियों पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, देश में कृषि मजदूरों की स्थिति सुधारने हेतु कुछ अन्य उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Minimum wages Act was enacted to ensure that the workers and agricultural labours get basic income to address their minimum basic needs and live a life of dignity. But there are many lacunae in implementation of this Act.

LACUNAE:

(1) The Act does not provide a clear definition of agricultural labourer.

(2) Secondly it doesn't provide for indexing of the wages as per inflationary or other pressures in agricultural sector arising due to fluctuation in prices of crops.

(3) Also the monitoring authority is at district level making the power distance large to ensure that there is no adequate grievance redressal.

(4) Also the Act doesn't empower Gram Sabha or Panchayat to ensure implementation of Act.

(5) Moreover it doesn't provide for minimum wages during the lean season.

MEASURES REQUIRED

(1) Amendments in the Minimum wages Act to make sure

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that agricultural labourers enjoy same security as that by the industrial workers

(2) Registration of all such workers with Panchayat or Gram sabha so that adequate targetting is done.

(3) Further there is need to develop food processing industries so that they can get employment there during lean season.

(4) Model Act shall be enacted by centre to channelise all state laws in this regard into single stream all over the country.

(5) Establish grievance redressal cells at local levels to ensure adequate welfare of agricultural labourers

Thus it is to be noted that they are the basic units of our agricultural system and strengthening them would be a good step in bottom-up approach of agricultural and economic development.

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20. Discuss the potential of horticulture sector in realizing the government's vision of doubling the farm income. Also, highlight the challenges which are needed to be addressed for realizing full potential of this sector.

कृषि आय को दोगुना करने की सरकार की परिकल्पना को साकार करने में बागवानी (हॉर्टिकल्चर) क्षेत्रक की क्षमता पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस क्षेत्रक की सम्पूर्ण क्षमता को वास्तविकता में परिणत करने के लिए उन चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए जिनसे निपटना आवश्यक है।

Horticulture sector represents an untapped arena ~~wit~~ having the potential to boost farmers income as well as develop the agricultural sector as a whole.

POTENTIAL:

(1) Many states in India especially the hilly states and northeastern states have potential for developing into orchards
eg: Apples, Apricots, walnuts etc. are grown in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh etc.

(2) These can provide year round income to farmers by growing different fruits and vegetables during different seasons.

(3) Also the horticulture requires only one time investment which can be provided by government enabling a sustainable source of income.

(4) This can also develop in areas having less water availability as tree crops require less water and hence adequate livelihood to farmers there.

(5) India is largest producer of vegetables and these can be exported if quality is maintained, thereby boosting

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farmers income.

(6) Also ~~sellers~~ it can drive food processing industries providing market to farmers.

CHALLENGES WHICH NEEDS TO ADDRESSED

(1) First is the huge investment required initially as farmers have less access to organised source of finance.

(2) Secondly there are fragmented lands in India whereas large land tracts are required to make this a sustainable livelihood option.

(3) maintaining adequate quality of crops require skill training to farmers.

(4) lack of adequate cold chain infrastructure and food processing industries in the absence of which these fruits and vegetables may perish.

(5) Adequate pricing mechanism like MSP to ensure guaranteed minimum return on cost incurred.

Thus though it has potential to double farmers' income but adequate credit, infrastructure and training is required to develop this sector fully in the country.

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